

**JUVENILE CRIME DATA
1999-2004**

**PUBLISHED BY THE
MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL
MARCH 2005**

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JUVENILE STATISTICS FY1999-FY2004

Introduction

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) receives Juvenile Probation Information System (JPIS) data from the Child and Adult Protective Services program (CAPS) a component of the Montana Department of Health and Human Services. This data is classified as Juvenile Referral and Offense data.

The Probation offices enter all juvenile offense information into the CAPS program and maintain electronic case files on juvenile criminal activity. The referral/offense data collected in CAPS is provided to the Board of Crime Control on a semi-annual basis. The Board's role is one of data analysis based on the statistical data provided to the Board by the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.

This document and analysis covers the time-frame from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2004. Most of the representations will be snap-shots based on state fiscal years

Data Selection and Methods of Count

Persons using statistical data from this document should remain cautious in that the data may not represent 100% of all case information. Over the past several years record systems have become more sophisticated, data entry accuracy has improved, and each record is more complete. One of the remaining problems with the data is that individuals entering data for record keeping purposes are selective in the data entered. As an example, at least one jurisdiction has determined that shop lifting should not be included in the case management system. Another jurisdiction has concluded that they would not enter juvenile criminal activity in the system unless the juvenile preexisted due to being eligible for foster care payments. Therefore, the data herein may be incomplete. The Board of Crime Control is encouraging all reporting agencies to insure complete record capture.

The data contained herein will be limited to case analysis. A case consists of the referral to the juvenile probation office and all activities surrounding that referral, such as the charges against the youth and the manner in which the case was resolved typically known as the disposition.

When measuring the activity of youth courts, one could count the number of offenses charged, the number of referrals, the number of dispositions, the number of cases, or the number of youth. Each unit of count has its own merits and disadvantages. Several units of count will be used in this report, and in most cases counts will be based on the date (calendar year) of referral summarized by fiscal year.

A “case” represents a youth processed by a juvenile court on a new referral regardless of the number of law violations contained in the referral. A youth charged with multiple offenses in a single referral would represent a single case. A youth referred for three burglaries and referred again the following week on another burglary charge would represent two cases. A “case” and a “referral” are used interchangeably.

General Activity – The CAPS Data

The analysis of data herein covers the six fiscal years from FY1999 through FY2004. The activities of Montana's Youth Courts and Juvenile Probation Offices can be measured by the following components:

1. *Total youth in CAPS System* - the number of individual youth, ages 5 through 17, maintained in the CAPS database for the time-frame referenced above is 31,405.

Table J-1 Total Youth

FY1999-FY2004	
31,405	
Sex	Total
Female	11290
Male	20053
Unspecified	62
Ethnic	Total
American Indian	2968
Caucasian	25055
Hispanic	631
Other	2751

2. *Juveniles involved* - the number of individual youth who become involved with the juvenile justice system. The numbers in the next two tables include only those youth who were referred to the system during FY1999-FY2004. An individual youth will be counted for each year of involvement.

Total youth referred to a Juvenile Probation Office each year:

Table J-2 Total Youth By Fiscal Year

FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
8207	7695	7349	7341	7361	7303

Youth charged with an offense:

Table J-3 Total Juveniles with Offenses

FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
13682	12487	11788	11694	11600	11659

3.The Number of Referrals - the number of cases established documenting juvenile encounters with the criminal justice system. An individual can be referred more than once during the year. In any referral, a youth may be charged with more than one crime. Also a single referral can involve more than one youth. However, most youth are referred to the system one time and for a single crime. During the five years in this analysis, fifty-eight percent (58.01%) of the total youth were involved with the probation system on a single basis. Eighteen percent (17.7%) had two referrals, eight percent (8.4%) had three referrals, and sixteen percent (15.91%) had 4 or more referrals. Total referrals handled by the Juvenile Probation offices:

Table J-4 Total Referrals

FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
11297	10669	9910	9619	9896	9871

4.The number of Offenses - the number of crimes attributed to youths that have been referred to the system. The Montana Youth Court System charged youth with total offenses as follow:

Table J-5 Total Offenses

FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531

Referrals by Age and Sex

The count of referrals for each age and sex can be used to identify critical age/sex groups and predict potential changes in Youth Court activities. Age was calculated based on age at time of referral.

Table J-6 Crimes Committed By Female / Age

Age	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
5	1	2		1		
6		5	3		2	1
7	2	8	6	9		4
8	14	11	7	16	6	7
9	32	21	12	25	13	15
10	33	51	47	48	60	32
11	98	100	83	96	94	87
12	255	180	230	254	243	207
13	648	557	594	509	490	525
14	968	897	847	822	783	891
15	1089	1161	982	1003	1168	1020
16	1101	1001	891	1021	1079	1069
17	858	860	840	837	896	905
Total	5099	4854	4542	4641	4834	4763

Table J-7 Crimes Committed By Male / Age

Age	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
5	2	7	5	1	1	4
6	11	16	16	7	7	9
7	26	28	29	30	26	25
8	66	60	48	44	39	62
9	150	154	102	93	100	88
10	228	195	167	165	174	119
11	374	319	296	262	291	284
12	630	469	485	469	560	521
13	1226	970	871	905	907	1000
14	1577	1501	1436	1325	1179	1416
15	2290	2112	2108	2163	1912	1944
16	2740	2423	2291	2189	2055	2119
17	2613	2455	2411	2300	2308	2177
Total	11933	10709	10265	9953	9559	9768

Ethnic Origin - Juveniles

The following figures represent the total ethnic origin over the past five years according to CAPS data. Trends that should be noted, or at least watched over the next few years, are that the percent Caucasian has grown slightly over the past five years while the American Indian and Black percentages have steadily declined. This decline is a positive trend in reducing the potential for over-representation of minority populations in the juvenile justice system.

Table J-8 Ethnic Origin

Ethnicity	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
American Ind	2364	1779	1734	1805	1897	1863
Caucasian	12938	12163	11517	11312	11218	11223
Hispanic	477	373	321	285	311	320
All Others	1254	1321	1256	1203	973	1125
Total	17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531

Source of Referral

Law enforcement authorities are the primary referral source for delinquent youth in Montana. The combination of Police departments and sheriff's offices account for over 90% of delinquent referrals. Over the years, local law enforcement has traditionally provided the bulk of referrals to the juvenile justice system. Total referral sources are shown in the next table.

Table J-9 Referred By

Referred By	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Sheriff	2958	2979	2740	2684	2689	2861
Police	7637	7022	6524	6289	6278	6108
School	51	19	15	22	37	40
Parents	32	31	28	28	143	110
Self	11	11	11	12	20	95
County Attorney	17	32	40	24	26	19
Highway Patrol	64	79	67	75	64	45
Fish & Game	2	3	5	6	5	2
Other Court	270	196	251	232	305	215
Other State	31	50	43	35	31	37
Tribal Court	6		6	1	3	5
Other	218	247	180	211	295	334

Offense Categories

Currently Offenses are divided into seven major categories.

1. *Crimes against persons* include criminal homicide, forcible rape, sex crimes, robbery, family crimes, and assault.

2. *Property crimes* include burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, vandalism, receiving and possessing stolen property, and trespassing.

3. *Offenses against the public order* include weapon offenses, sex offenses, driving under the influence of intoxicants, disorderly conduct, traffic crimes, and court and justice system offenses (escape, contempt, and probation violations).

4. *Offenses against public administration* include false reports to law enforcement, obstructing justice, resisting arrest, and others.

5. *Status offenses* include these offenses that strictly pertain to juveniles. They include runaways, curfew violations, ungovernable, and liquor violations.

6. *Drug offenses*.

7. *Other offenses*.

Referral Offenses

Table J-10 Total Offenses

Total count will be greater than combination of “female” and “male” due to fact that total includes unidentified sex.

Crime Specifics	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Aggravated Assault	106	89	98	95	78	85
Alcohol	1269	1265	1212	1237	1257	1033
Arson	73	78	71	40	50	78
Burglary	449	398	292	354	342	309
Curfew	984	915	743	722	618	590
Disorderly	992	1039	1008	1057	1036	1179
Drug Offenses	800	747	787	795	809	837
Drug Paraphernalia	733	739	724	698	614	695
DUI	12	10	21	12	6	7
Forgery	85	100	86	75	51	42
Homicide	4	12	11	6	3	6
Larceny	3486	3054	2754	2680	2720	2572
Motor Vehicle Theft	238	200	167	143	171	138
Obscenity		3		2	4	7
Obstructing	541	519	519	507	448	517
Other	1091	1091	1199	1084	1082	1131
Rape	38	37	45	37	41	45
Robbery	40	21	23	15	23	18
Runaway	1038	932	858	843	839	879
Sexual assault	80	72	84	57	54	68
Simple Assault	1543	1272	1363	1253	1179	1417
Tobacco	199	171	141	156	154	150
Traffic	54	61	44	36	33	15
Trespass	789	646	675	655	634	607
Truancy	983	808	604	688	811	792
Vandalism	1311	1269	1227	1286	1271	1241
Weapon	95	88	72	72	71	73

Table J-11 Offenses – Female

Crime Specifics	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Aggravated Assault	19	18	21	19	11	17
Alcohol	463	515	465	527	536	463
Arson	7	8	13	4	9	8
Burglary	49	84	37	42	30	41
Curfew	374	331	252	284	257	214
Disorderly	231	285	277	308	287	307
Drug Offenses	188	173	174	189	243	225
Drug Paraphernalia	135	140	147	150	148	158
DUI	4	3	4	3	1	4
Forgery	37	44	38	31	24	18
Homicide		4		2		
Larceny	1023	897	854	930	984	988
Motor Vehicle Theft	90	73	67	50	78	65
Obscenity					1	
Obstructing	188	170	175	157	172	163
Other	274	329	397	347	333	355
Rape	2	2			1	4
Robbery	5	5	3	3	4	1
Runaway	610	556	538	497	529	523
Sexual assault	2	5	3	2	2	5
Simple Assault	437	394	429	351	375	460
Tobacco	60	51	33	51	63	48
Traffic	15	12	15	10	13	5
Trespass	174	121	117	114	115	103
Truancy	513	414	300	352	412	400
Vandalism	196	210	179	213	201	187
Weapon	3	10	4	5	5	1

Table J-12 Offenses – Male

Crime Specifics	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Aggravated Assault	87	70	77	76	67	68
Alcohol	805	737	737	707	716	570
Arson	66	69	58	36	41	70
Burglary	400	313	255	312	312	268
Curfew	610	584	491	438	361	376
Disorderly	761	750	730	749	749	872
Drug Offenses	612	567	612	606	566	612
Drug Paraphernalia	598	589	577	547	465	537
DUI	8	7	17	9	5	3
Forgery	48	56	48	44	27	24
Homicide	4	8	11	4	3	6
Larceny	2463	2146	1899	1750	1736	1584
Motor Vehicle Theft	148	126	99	93	93	73
Obscenity		3		2	3	7
Obstructing	353	348	343	350	276	354
Other	817	758	802	736	749	776
Rape	36	35	45	37	40	41
Robbery	35	16	20	12	19	17
Runaway	428	373	319	345	310	356
Sexual assault	78	66	81	55	52	63
Simple Assault	1106	874	932	901	804	957
Tobacco	139	120	108	104	91	102
Traffic	39	49	29	25	20	10
Trespass	615	524	557	541	519	504
Truancy	470	392	303	336	399	392
Vandalism	1115	1052	1047	1071	1070	1054
Weapon	92	77	68	67	66	72

Table J-13 Offense Summary

Offenses by Year

Offense Category	Crime Specifics	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Crimes Against Persons	Aggravated Assault	106	89	98	95	78	85
	Homicide	4	12	11	6	3	6
	Other	42	51	57	43	64	52
	Rape	38	37	45	37	41	45
	Robbery	40	21	23	15	23	18
	Sexual assault	80	72	84	57	54	68
	Simple Assault	1543	1272	1363	1253	1179	1417
	Total	1853	1554	1681	1506	1442	1691
Crimes Against Property	Arson	73	78	71	40	50	78
	Burglary	449	398	292	354	342	309
	Forgery	85	100	86	75	51	42
	Larceny	3486	3054	2754	2680	2720	2572
	Motor Vehicle Theft	238	200	167	143	171	138
	Other	32	25	24	27	10	12
	Trespass	789	646	675	655	634	607
	Vandalism	1311	1269	1227	1286	1271	1241
	Total	6463	5770	5296	5260	5249	4999
Drug Offenses	Drug Offenses	800	747	787	795	809	837
	Drug Paraphernalia	733	739	724	698	614	695
	Total	1533	1486	1511	1493	1423	1532
Offenses Against Public Administration	Obstructing	541	519	519	507	448	517
	Other	549	641	743	739	730	710
	Total	1090	1160	1262	1246	1178	1227
Offenses Against Public Order	Disorderly	992	1039	1008	1057	1036	1179
	Obscenity		3		2	4	7
	Other	65	65	74	56	62	73
	Weapon	95	88	72	72	71	73
	Total	1152	1195	1154	1187	1173	1332
Other Offenses	DUI	12	10	21	12	6	7
	Other	372	256	251	174	186	231
	Traffic	54	61	44	36	33	15
	Total	438	327	316	222	225	253
Status Offenses	Alcohol	1269	1265	1212	1237	1257	1033
	Curfew	984	915	743	722	618	590
	Other	31	53	50	45	30	53
	Runaway	1038	932	858	843	839	879
	Tobacco	199	171	141	156	154	150
	Truancy	983	808	604	688	811	792
	Total	4504	4144	3608	3691	3709	3497
Grand Total		17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531

Table J-14 Juvenile Referrals

SUMMARY OF
JUVENILE REFERRALS
(STATUS VS DELINQUENT CASES)

	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
STATUS OFFENSES	4504	4144	3608	3691	3709	3497
DELINQUENT OFFENSES	11492	11220	10914	10690	11034	11492
TOTAL	17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531

Table J-15 Comparison Of Juvenile Offenses

Offense Category	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004
Persons	1853	1554	1681	1506	1442	1691
	10.88%	9.94%	11.34%	10.31%	10.01%	11.64%
Property	6463	5770	5296	5260	5249	4999
	37.94%	36.90%	35.72%	36.02%	36.45%	34.40%
Drug Offenses	1533	1486	1511	1493	1423	1532
	9.00%	9.50%	10.19%	10.22%	9.88%	10.54%
Public Admin.	1090	1160	1262	1246	1178	1227
	6.40%	7.42%	8.51%	8.53%	8.18%	8.44%
Public Order	1152	1195	1154	1187	1173	1332
	6.76%	7.64%	7.78%	8.13%	8.15%	9.17%
Other Offenses	438	327	316	222	225	253
	2.57%	2.09%	2.13%	1.52%	1.56%	1.74%
Status Offenses	26.44%	26.50%	24.33%	25.27%	25.76%	24.07%
	17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531
Grand Total	17033	15636	14828	14605	14399	14531